



POLICY TITLE EVALUATING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES -
 SMALL SCALE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

15-12-01

the Ontario Water Resources Act
the Environmental Protection Act

This policy addresses water resource concerns related to small scale construction projects. It is developed for use by proponents and the Ministry of Environment (MOE) Staff. The intent is to provide assistance both in anticipating potential impacts and in planning adequate mitigative measures.

Detailed information is contained in the guide "Evaluating Construction Activities Impacting on Water Resources: Part V: Guide to Protecting the Aquatic Environment During Small Scale Waterfront Construction Projects, September 1986".

The objective of this policy is to ensure that good construction practices for small scale construction projects are used to minimize sediment and chemical inputs into water courses, and that the physical and biological integrity of Ontario's waterbodies are protected in accordance with Policy No. 15-01 of this manual.

October 3, 1986

Director, Water Resources Branch

October 1, 1986

2. Application

This policy applies to all small scale construction projects in Ontario. Most of these projects are carried out by the private sector such as cottages and waterfront property owners. This guideline shall be used by MOE staff in their review of small scale construction projects and by proponents in the evaluation of water resources impacts and in the planning of mitigative measures.

3. Effects of Small Scale Construction

Short and long-term effects of construction on the aquatic environment may involve erosion and sedimentation, degradation of surface water quality, disruption of surface water quantity, damage to water course bed and banks, and channel modification. These effects may have negative impacts on the watercourse ecosystem and on other beneficial uses.

4. Mitigation of Construction Related Impacts

Recommendations to mitigate and minimize potential short and long-term impacts are outlined in the guide. Short-term, construction related impacts can generally be minimized through sound construction practices and various site specific control methods. Long-term impacts can be minimized through a combination of careful project design and site restoration measures.

5. Policy Implementation

This policy will be implemented by the regional offices of MOE during field inspection and project reviews.